Mega Scheme to Encourage Exports

632. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a mega scheme incorporating all incentives for exporters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) In the current Export-Import Policy different export schemes exist pertaining to export products. Suggestions have been received from certain sectors of trade and industry for reframing some of these export schemes currently in operation and retain only one or two simplified schemes. These suggestions, alongwith others, are being given due consideration.

Export Curbs Imposed by USA

633. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has moved the World Trade Organisation against the export curbs imposed by the United States on Indian Companies after the country's nuclear tests; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) India has not moved the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism against the export curbs imposed by the United States after India's nuclear tests. However, India has made a statement in the General Council saying inter-alia that the imposition of such export restrictions is unjustified.

Permanent Pavilion at Pragati Maidan to Arunachal Pradesh

634. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arunachal Pradesh has been allotted a permanent pavilion at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi for participation in Trade and exhibitions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per policy of ITPO prevalent for a long time, no State Govt. has been allotted space for permanent pavilion except those already in existence, Creation of more State pavilions is not a financially viable proposition for ITPO as the space of the State pavilion remains idle most of the time except during specific annual events like India International Trade Fair (IITF).

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में घाटा

635. **श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार की स्थिति क्या है;

(ख) क्या भारत को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में भारी घाटा हो रहा है;

(ग) इस घाटे को दूर करने के लिए किन उपायों पर विचार किया गया है; और

(घ) गत पांच वर्षों के दौरान क्या घाटे में बढ़ोतरी हुई है अथवा गिरावट आई है?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री रामकृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) और (ख) डीजीसीआई एंड एस के अनन्तिम आकड़ों के अनुसार, अप्रैल—दिसम्बर, 1998 के दौरान 24286.87 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के निर्यात होने का अनुमान था जो कि पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में हुए

निर्यातों के मूल्य की तुलना में 2.88% कम है। अप्रैल—दिसम्बर, 1998 के दौरान 31582.86 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के आयात करने का अनुमान था जो पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में किए गए आयातों से 7.1% ज्यादा है। अप्रैल—दिसम्बर, 1998 की अवधि के दौरान व्यापार घाटा 7296 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर का था जो अप्रैल-दिसम्बर, 1997 के दौरान हुए 4478.3 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के घाटे से अधिक है।

(ग) निर्यातों को बढ़ाने के लिए पहले कई उपाय किए गए हैं। इन उपायों में शामिल हैं:- निर्यात ऋण पर ब्याज की दर को 11% से घटाकर 9% करना, मौजूदा निर्यात प्रोत्साहन योजनाओं का सुदृढ़ीकरण, क्रियाविधियों का सरलीकरण और क्षेत्र विशिष्ट मुद्दों का निपटान। नीति की समीक्षा करना एक सतत प्रक्रिया है और यह व्यापार और औद्योगिक संस्थाओं के साथ बात-चीत के आधार पर की जाती है।

(घ) पिछले पांच वर्षों के निर्यात, आयात और व्यापार घाटे के आंकड़े निम्नानुसार हैं:-

(मिलियन अमरीकी डालर में)

वर्ष	निर्यात	आयात	व्यापार शेष
1994-95	26330	28654	-2324
1995-96	31797	36678	-4881
1996-97	33470	39132	-5662
1997-98	33980	40779	-6799
अप्रैल दिस०, 1998	24287	31583	-7296

Advisory Panel on International Trade

636. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an advisory panel on international trade;

(b) if so, what are the names of the members of the panel; and

(c) what are the terms of reference thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) The Government have set up an Advisory Committee on International Trade under the Chairmanship of the Commerce Minister to, inter alia, advise the Government in the formulation of International Trade Policy.

(b) The Committee includes leading Industrialists, eminent experts on trade, environmentalists, consumer activists, academicians, former diplomats, representatives of Chambers of Commerce, Commerce Secretary and Special Secretary (Commerce) of GOI. The names of the Members of the Committee are:

Shri Rahul Bajaj,
CMD, Bajaj Auto Ltd.

Shri B.L. Das,
Former Ambassador to WTO.

Shri V.N. Dhoot,
Managing Director, Videocon International Ltd.

Shri Muchkund Dubey,
Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India.

Shri A.V. Ganesan,
Former Commerce Secretary, Government of India.

Shri Onkar Goswamy,
Senior Consultant, Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi.

Shri Abld Hussin,
Former Member, Planning Commission.

Shri Krishna Raj,
Editor, Economic & Political Weekly.

Shri Pradip S. Mehta,
Consumer Unity and Trust Society, Jaipur.

Dr. Amit Mitra,
Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Shri M. Narasimham,
Chairman, Administrative Staff College of India.